

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 H-02 SS-14 NSC-10 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 AID-20 DODE-00

EA-11 /119 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ PAB: LBLAINGEN: BK

3/9/73: EXT 20353

APPROVED BY NEA/ PAB: LBLAINGEN

H: KFOELGER

NEA/ INS: DTSCHNEIDER (INFO)

----- 017058

P R 100041 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CALL ON CONGRESS BY GOVERNOR KHAR

1. DURING WASHINGTON VISIT MARCH 7-8, PRESIDENT BHUTTO' S
SPECIAL EMISSARY GOVERNOR KHAR HAD MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS
HFAC AND SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. AS IN
MEETING WITH SECRETARY, MINISTER OF STATE AHMED ACCOMPANIED
AND DID MOST OF TALKING. AHMED STAYED ON MARCH 9 AND KEPT
MEETINGS SCHEDULED WITH SENATORS SCOTT AND MANSFIELD.

2. HOUSE COMMITTEE SESSION HAD 11 MEMBERS PRESENT,
INCLUDING HAMILTON AND MORGAN- SENATE SESSION INCLUDED
AIKEN, SPARKMAN, MCGEE, JAVITS AND M(GOVERN, LATTER ONLY
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MEMBER PRESENT FOR ENTIRE SESSION.

3. PRESENTATION BY MINISTER AHMED ESSENTIALLY SAME AS THAT MADE BY HIM TO SECRETARY; I. E. EMPHASIS ON INDIAN INTRANSIGENCE WHICH WAS UNDERMINING SIMLA SPIRIT, STRONGLY EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER SOVIET INTENTIONS, AND PAKISTAN'S NEED FOR HELP FROM ITS FRIENDS IF IT WAS TO AVOID BECOMING SOVIET/ INDIAN SATELLITE.

4. DURING MEETING WITH HFAC, AHMED MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO DOLS 1.1 MILLION IN MILITARY SPARE PARTS IN NY OWNED BY PAKISTAN BUT NOT SHIPPED BECAUSE OF EMBARGO. ALSO STRESSED THAT ALTHOUGH PAKISTAN DID NOT WISH US MIL PRESENCE AND COULD UNDERSTAND WHY US DID NOT WISH TO BE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN MILITARY MATTERS SOUTH ASIA, PAKIS AN VERY MUCH NEEDED ACCESS TO SOPHISTICATED US WEAPONS IF IT WAS TO MAINTAIN EFFECTIVE DETERRENT FORCE. AHMED TOLD MEMBERS THAT GOP HAD BEEN TOLD BY USG THAT CONGRESS OPPOSED TO MILITARY AID SOUTH ASIA. PAKISTAN COULD UNDERSTAND US CONCERN OVER FUTURE US MILITARY INVOLVEMENT OVERSEAS BUT WAS UNABLE UNDERSTAND WHY US OPPOSED TO COUNTRY LIKE PAKISTAN USING ITS OWN RESOURCES TO BUY EQUIPMENT IN US TO PROVIDE FOR ITS OWN SECURITY. PAKISTAN NEEDED HELP; US WAS ITS FRIEND; IN INTEREST OF FUTURE WESTERN ROLE IN SOUTH ASIA, PAKISTAN HAD ASSUMED US WOULD WANT TO DEMONSTRATE THAT IT STOOD BY ITS FRIENDS.

5. RESPONSE BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS VARIED BUT THERE WAS GENERAL EMPHASIS ON PROBLEM OF PRIORITIES FACING US IN TERMS OVERSEAS INVOLVEMENT AND COMMITMENTS. ALSO EMPHASIS ON IMPLICATIONS OF VIET NAM EXPERIENCE FOR FUTURE US ROLE ABROAD. THERE WAS ALSO GENERAL CONSENSUS CONVEYED TO KHAR/ AHMED THAT WITH ELECTIONS COMPLETED IN BANGLADESH THERE WAS STRONG HOPE AND DESIRE IN US FOR COUNTRIES SOUTH ASIA TO GET ON WITH NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO PEACEFUL ACCOMMODATION.

6. EMPHASIS BY AHMED IN MEETING WITH SENATE COMMITTEE WAS ON PAKISTAN'S HOPE THAT US WOULD HELP ITS FRIENDS TO HELP THEMSELVES. AHMED CONCEDED PAKISTAN GETTING HELP FROM CHINESE. THIS DID NOT INCLUDE SOPHISTICATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EQUIPMENT. UNLESS PAKISTAN WERE TO GET SOME DEGREE OF

HELP FROM US, GOP FEARED IT WOULD HAVE TO BEGIN BEING RESPONSIVE TO SECURITY OVERTURES ALREADY BEING HEARD FROM SOVIETS. DURING BOTH HOUSE AND SENATE SESSIONS AHMED MADE REFERENCE TO WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS US COMMITMENT TO BE OF ASSISTANCE IN 1959 BILATERAL.

7. RESPONSE BY SENATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ESSENTIALLY ALONG SAME LINES AS THAT IN HOUSE BUT WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS BY MCGOVERN ON POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS FOR ARMS RACE IN SOUTH ASIA SHOULD US RESUME MILITARY SUPPLY.

AHMED'S RESPONSE WAS THAT US FAILURE TO RESUME SUPPLY OF ANY KIND WOULD CERTAINLY NOT STOP LARGE CURRENT SOVIET DELIVERIES TO INDIA, WHEREAS SOME DEGREE OF US SUPPLY TO PAKISTAN MIGHT ACT AS DETERRENT TO SOVIETS. IN RESPONSE AIKEN QUERY WHETHER SOVIET CONCERN OVER CHINA MIGHT NOT CAUSE SOVIETS TO ACT IN MORE RESTRAINED MANNER IN SOUTH ASIA, AHMED RESPONDED THAT THIS DID NOT SEEM TO BE HAPPENING. IN SUPPORT HIS POSITION AHMED NOTED IRAQI ARMS DISCOVERY PAKISTAN AND APPARENT SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN THAT AND OTHER ACTIVITY. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE044443
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LBLAINGEN: BK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730324/aaaahklj.tel
Line Count: 140
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jul-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <21-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 971117
Subject: CALL ON CONGRESS BY GOVERNOR KHAR
TAGS: PFOR, IN, IR, PK, RS, US, n/a
To: DACCA
ISLAMABAD
LONDON
MOSCOW
NEW DELHI
TEHRAN
USUN NEW YORK

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005